

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3001

October 28, 1998

Mr. John Reeder
Congressional Liaison Division
Environmental Protection Agency
8th Floor, West Tower
401 M Street
Washington, D.C. 20507

Dear Mr. Reeder:

I write to you on behalf of the residents of Monroe Township, County of Gloucester, NJ. Enclosed please find correspondence from Edward J. Knorr, Chairman of the Monroe Twp. Environmental Commission, who has contacted my office for assistance regarding the contamination of local drinking water.

A resident of Monroe Township made the Gloucester County Health Department aware of this matter after his wife became seriously ill due to mercury contamination. The county conducted a series of tests on private wells, and to date have found over thirty wells which contain mercury levels as high as fifteen parts per billion. Mr. Knorr has requested aid from the EPA to conduct a full scale environmental investigation to determine the cause of this contamination.

I ask that you afford the residents of Gloucester County all due consideration in this matter under the law. In addition I would be interested in receiving your review and reply to this correspondence so that I may advise my constituent accordingly.

Please forward your response to the attention of my assistant, Fred J. DeAndrea at 506A White Horse Pike, Haddon Heights, NJ 08035, (609) 546-5100. Thank-you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



ROBERT E. ANDREWS
Member of Congress

REA:fd
enc.

REPLY TO:

☐ 2439 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3001
(202) 225-6501

☐ 506 A WHITE HORSE PIKE
HADDON HEIGHTS, NJ 08035
(609) 546-5100

☐ 63 N. BROAD STREET
WOODBURY, NJ 08096-4602
(609) 848-3900

e-mail at: randrews@hr.house.gov

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Environmental Commission

Township of Monroe
County of Gloucester
125 Virginia Avenue
Williamstown, New Jersey 08094
(609) 728-9879
Fax (609) 728-9832

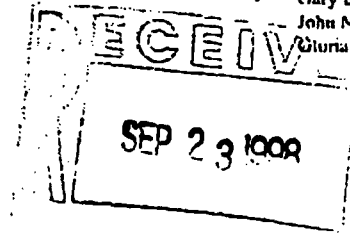
Commission Members

Edward Knorr	Chairman
Mark Gursky	Vice Chairman
Terry Bunzella	Commissioner
Robert Keller	Commissioner
Gary Ludlum	Commissioner
John Matkowsky	Commissioner
Glenn Gladhill	Commissioner

September 22, 1998

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3001

Attn: Congress Robert E. Andrews
First District, New Jersey



Dear Congressman Andrews,

I am writing to request help in finding out who we can contact to seek funding to conduct a full scale environmental investigation into the recent mercury contamination in the ground-water in Monroe Township (Gloucester County). To give you a brief overview of our situation it appears that an unknown section of the Kirkwood-Cohansey Aquifer in our area is contaminated with a significant level of mercury excessively exceeding the allowable standard in drinking water. Your office was contacted in late July by Mr. Harbison regarding his water and his wife's medical condition. Your office contacted the Mayor's office who then contacted me. We then immediately responded to the area and after a tag match we caught up with each other. After speaking with Bruce I could tell by the area and well location that there was more than his well having a serious problem. Two weeks later the state took other test in his neighbors wells and found out what I had assumed that the contamination problem was spread out. So we met again and the concern I have is that other areas may be affected other than this area so I am trying to find out if funding is available to be able to place this area of 4 square miles under a close watch and be able to conduct a proper investigative study of mercury pollution and it's affects on the people and animals in the area along with an interior study to measure indoor air quality of the affected homes. I feel this would be of great importance now because I am sure that this current problem will surface again many times unfortunately in the future, maybe not in Monroe but elsewhere and doing a model study could better prepare everyone to react effectively when the situation arises.

Also last year I contacted your office regarding the concerns with the notifications in cases where municipal water supplies are contaminated. As it stands now notifications do not and in most cases are not sent out until one year after contaminated water has been found. This is far too long and again I ask if you could check into this for me.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Knorr
Edward J. Knorr
Chairman

"Safeguarding Today's Environment for a healthier Tomorrow"



TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
GLoucester COUNTY, NJ